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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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I am an application developer at the DC Metro Police Department. One of the things which the Proposed Final Judgment in United States v. Microsoft does not cover is file formats. This single omission makes the judgment weak.

File formats are one of the driving forces trapping consumers with windows and removing their freedom of choice. It causes a chicken and egg problem. Your workplace can not switch away from Microsoft because it is what you have at home. You can not switch away from Microsoft because it is what you use at work. This cycle leaves consumers feeling trapped; they need Microsoft just to be able to function.

If Microsoft file formats remain undocumented, third party developers will never be able to make a dent in their monopoly, and third party operating systems will never have a chance. Undocumented file formats create a much higher barrier to entry.

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